

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 AGR-05 AGRE-00 EA-07 SS-15

NSC-05 /082 W

----- 061444

R 101530Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1821

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2460

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 08838

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, EAID, EA, PFOR

SUBJECT: EC FOOD AID TO VIETNAM

REF: (A) 75 EC BRUSSELS 6377, (B) 75 EC BRUSSELS 3382

1. EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS TELL US THAT A DELEGATION OF VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS FROM THEIR EMBASSY AT PARIS HAS REQUESTED FOOD AID FROM THE EC NEXT YEAR. SO FAR NO AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BUT COMMISSION OFFICIALS TELL US THAT THEY ARE INCLINED TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THE REQUEST IF MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE REACHED. SEVERAL OBSTACLES HAVE ARISEN, HOWEVER. FIRST, THE VIETNAMESE WANT THE EC TO PAY FOR THE FREIGHT AND INSURANCE, WHICH IS NOT NORMAL IN EC FOOD AID SHIPMENTS. SECONDLY, THEY HAVE REQUESTED RICE, WHICH THE EC IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE. AS AN ALTERNATIVE, THE EC IS WILLING TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE SHIPMENTS OF OTHER GRAINS AND NFDN.

2. COMMISSION OFFICIALS ADD THAT THEY SEE A FOOD AID PROGRAM TO VIET NAM AS A MEANS OF A RETURN TO NORMAL

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EC RELATIONS WITH HANOI.

3. COMMENT: BEFORE ANY FINAL DECISION, THE MEMBER STATES WILL HAVE TO APPROVE A FOOD AID PROGRAM TO VIETNAM. AT THIS POINT WE DO NOT KNOW TO WHAT EXTENT THE COMMISSION HAS CONSULTED WITH THE NINE REGARDING THE VIETNAMESE REQUEST. HINTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, BURDENSARING, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ECBRU08838
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760343-0474
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760974/aaaacld.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 EC BRUSSELS 6377, 75 EC BRUSSELS 3382
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC FOOD AID TO VIETNAM
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, VS, VN, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006